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SOURCE 1953 Ching-chi Nien-pao (1953 Economic Yearbook), published by Ching-chi Tao-pao She.

AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHINA, 1952

[Comment: This report summarizes an article entitled, "The Great Victory in Agricultural Production for the Past Year," by Shu Hsing-chih, published in the pro-Communist 1953 Ching-chi Nien-pao (1953 Economic Yearbook) 5 February 1953. It gives information on land reform, agricultural production, mutual aid teams, cooperatives, farms, technological development, sale of farm products, and education in rural areas.]

A. Land Reform

From 1950 to 1952, 90 percent of the farm population in China was affected by land reform. Seven hundred million mou of land were divided among 300 million farmers. The number of middle-class farmers increased from 20 percent to 80 percent, and the number of poor farmers and hired help decreased from 70 percent to 10-20 percent of the total farm population.

B. Agricultural Production

Using 1949 as the base year, food production for 1950 was 117 percent and for 1951, 128 percent. For 1952 it is estimated at 140 percent. Using 1949 as the base year, cotton production for 1950 was 159 percent and for 1951, 252 percent. For 1952 it is estimated at 300 percent. Using the year prior to World War II as the base year, food production for 1952 is estimated at 109 percent; cotton, 155.7 percent; flax, 559 percent; and sugar, 113 percent. Using 1950 as the base year, tea production for 1952 is estimated at 350 percent; tobacco, 300 percent; silk, 150 percent; livestock, 126 percent; and sheep, 142 percent.

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According to incomplete surveys, the agricultural production of the administrative areas is as follows:

Northeast Administrative Area -- Food production for 1952 is expected to exceed 1943 by 11 percent. Average production per hectare /presumably for 1952/ was about 1,350 kilograms, or an increase of 21 percent over 1943. The cotton production for 1952 is expected to exceed 1943 by 324 percent, livestock by 87 percent, and farm products by 48.2 percent.

North China Administrative Area -- Food production for 1952 is expected to exceed that for 1951 by 35 percent, cotton by 35 percent.

East China Administrative Area -- Food production for 1952 is expected to exceed that for the year prior to World War II by 6 percent, cotton production by 79 percent.

Central-South China Administrative Area -- Food production for 1952 is expected to exceed that for 1951 by 7.86 percent.

Northwest Administrative Area -- Food production for 1952 is expected to exceed that for 1951 by 9 percent, cotton production by 28 percent.

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region -- The total agricultural production for 1952 exceeded the 1952 production goal by 12 percent.

C. Mutual Aid Teams, Cooperatives, and Farms

At present, China has over 6 million mutual aid teams, over 4,000 agricultural production cooperatives, 10 collective farms, and 52 large-scale government-operated mechanized farms. Over 35 million farm families, involving 175 million farmers, have joined these organizations.

Cooperatives, mutual aid teams, collective farms, etc., of the administrative areas in 1952 are as follows:

Northeast Administrative Area -- There are 300,000 mutual aid teams, 1,000 agricultural production cooperatives, 6 collective farms, and 545 government-operated farms (including mechanized farms, experimental farms, demonstration farms, production farms, and livestock breeding farms). Eighty percent of farm families have joined these production organizations, and 84 percent of farm land is under cultivation.

North China Administrative Area -- There are 432,000 mutual aid teams, 1,700 agricultural production cooperatives, and 210 government-operated farms (including provincial and hsien-operated farms).

East China Administrative Area -- There are 2,187,124 mutual aid teams (temporary, 70 percent; permanent, 29.4 percent), 367 agricultural production cooperatives, 3 collective farms, and several tens of government-operated farms. Forty percent of the farm families have joined these production organizations.

Central-South China Administrative Area -- There are one million mutual aid teams (permanent, 180,000), 105 agricultural production cooperatives, and 648 government-operated farms (provincial operated, 53; special district operated, 65; hsien-operated, 530; mechanized farm, 1). Ten to 20 percent of the farm families have joined these production organizations.

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Southwest Administrative Area -- There are 895,000 mutual aid teams (temporary, 93.8 percent; permanent, 6.2 percent). About 20.3 percent of the farmers in Southwest area are participating in mutual aid teams.

Northwest Administrative Area -- There are 680,000 mutual aid teams, 143 agricultural production cooperatives (there were only ten in 1951), 4 collective farms, and 137 government-operated farms (including 6 mechanized farms, 110 demonstration farms, and 21 experimental farms).

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region -- There are 69,100 mutual aid teams (permanent, 34 percent), and 15 agricultural cooperatives. Eighty percent of laborers have joined these production organizations.

#### D. Technological Development

The Northeast has 83 technical promotion stations, of which 51 are engaged in promoting the use of new farm equipment. On the average, each station has about nine sets of new farm equipment for demonstration. During the past several years, farm implement demonstrations totaled 91,000.

During the first half of 1951, North China sold 30,000 new type plows. Hopeh farm equipment provision stations and cooperatives sold 18,000 plows, spraying machines, threshing machines, and other types of equipment.

According to a preliminary survey of Hopeh, Shansi, Shantung, Pingyuan, and Heilungkiang, there are approximately 24,600 agriculture technical training groups in those provinces. Statistics for Shansi, Hunan, Liaosi, and Hopeh show that there are 730,000 village cadres, model laborers, production model and mutual aid team leaders enrolled in technical training.

The North China farmers invested 200 billion yuan in water wheels and wells. During the first half of 1952, 92,916 water wheels were sold, exceeding the sales of 1951 by 28 percent. More than 28 million mou of land was irrigated in 1952.

Over 80 percent of the total farm land in China was fertilized, and production was thus increased. For example, Heilungkiang produced 4.5 million tons of food in 1952. Food production in Heilungkiang for 1953 is expected to be 6.75 million tons and for 1954, 9 million tons.

#### E. Sale of Farm Products

Using 1950 as the base year, the sale of farm products and handicraft goods for 1951 was 138.66 percent and for 1952 it is estimated at 148.61 percent. Using 1950 as the base year, the sale of foodstuffs for 1951 was 170.21 percent and for 1952 it is estimated at 271.28 percent. Rural purchasing power has been increased. For example, the Northeast sold 13.6 million bolts of cloth [presumably 1952], which was ten times the amount sold in 1949.

#### F. Education in Rural Areas

During the first half of 1951, there were 250,000 winter schools and 150,000 spare-time schools in China. In the spring of 1951, over 7 million enrolled in winter schools and 3 million in spare-time schools in East China; 4.85 million enrolled in winter schools and 3.2 million in spare-time schools in Central-South China; and 3 million enrolled in winter schools in Northwest China.

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